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REPORT

OF THE

ADJUTANT GENERAL

OF

NORTH-CAROLINA.

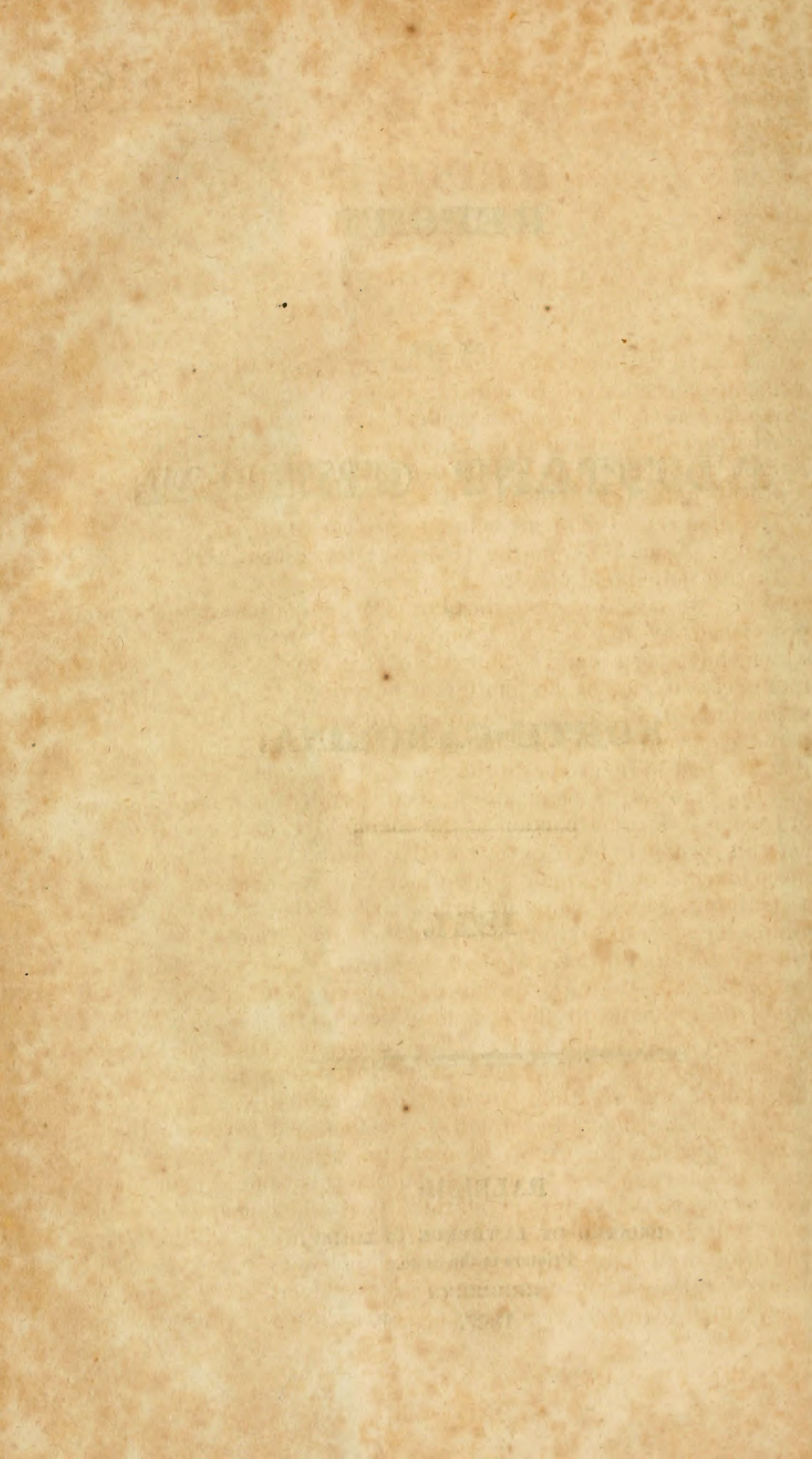
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1827.



REPORT.

ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE, }
Raleigh, December 1, 1827. }

SIR,

I have the honor to submit sundry papers in relation to the Militia, embracing all the objects required to be reported from this office annually to your Excellency, marked as follows:

Abstract of the various description of troops and of arms belonging to the State, as well as those in the hands of militia, A.

Roster of General Officers, B.

Detailed report of arms belonging to the State, C.

List of Arms due from the General Government, D.

List of delinquent officers, E.

When we take into view the plan of organization of the militia prescribed by the act of Congress, 1792, and the provisions which have been made by our State Legislature for carrying it into effect, it cannot be matter of surprise to find, that at the expiration of 35 years, the militia of our State had not only made no progress in discipline, but were daily becoming more inactive and burdensome to the State. Nor could it be expected that the State, with the means at its disposal, would be competent to render so large a portion of the community, as is required under this system to be trained, effective militia. To subject about three fourths of the male population, as is required, to a course of training, which would be productive of that degree of discipline necessary to give efficiency to their operations when called into service, and to have applied the fiscal resources of the State to compensate the citizens for the consumption of time which would be requisite to the accomplishment of this object, would have been attended with sacrifices, the circumstances of the people, nor the funds of the State, at no period since the adoption of this plan of organization, would have warranted.

The primary defect in the militia system, will be seen, therefore, to consist in the excess of numbers which the act of Congress proposes to hold to service; and to this source principally may be traced the failure of all the efforts which have been made to introduce discipline and regularity in the militia of the State. And I am well assured it will be vain to hope for any material change for the better, under the present system; but that the decline, which for many years has been apparent, will continue, and

in proportion to the increase of numbers, will be accelerated. The more general the diffusion of militia commands and titles, the less they will be esteemed as objects of honorable ambition by those whose intelligence and worth entitle them to the esteem of the community. Thus have the commands in the militia already too generally fallen to those who neither possess, nor deserve the confidence of the public; and from the operations of the same cause, a still further deterioration may be expected, till the State, discouraged in its hopes, and wearied in its well meant, but misdirected, and therefore, unsuccessful efforts to support a system too weak to sustain itself, and too heavy to be sustained, will suffer the unwieldy mass to dissolve, and leave us without even the show of military strength.

In the eastern part of the State, I am informed by many of the commanding officers of regiments, that there exists already much difficulty in getting officers for the lower grades. In some regiments, nearly half the companies are without officers to command them; and in some instances, where companies in this situation have been arranged to other districts, the men have been obliged consequently to travel 20 miles to attend company musters; where they have not been thus arranged to other districts, the Colonels are left without the means of embracing them in their returns.

It is not less a matter of surprise, than of gratification, under the existing circumstances of the militia, to find that the officers accountable to this office are generally punctual in the discharge of the duties imposed on them by the laws of the State, and have been able, notwithstanding the growing difficulties, in collecting the returns of their respective commands, to exhibit this year a number nearly equal to that of the last.

From the view taken of the militia in the preceding remarks, it is conceived, that no alteration in the laws of the State, under the present system, can be productive of any essential improvement in their discipline; and that Congress will be compelled, ere long, to give to the subject that attention its importance demands. And it is confidently hoped, that the present Congress will avail itself of the mass of matter on its files, collected through the exertions of the Secretary of War during the last year, and present to the States a plan of organization upon which a system of training can be built, that will render the militia the pride of our country and the bulwark of the government. The arms due from the General Government, which will be received in the course of the ensuing year, added to those already deposited at Fayetteville, will require more room than what is contained in the Arsenal at that place; and it will be necessary, consequently, the Legislature should make provision for their reception. The State has now

upwards of \$100,000 value in arms; an interest sufficiently important to claim the particular attention of the Legislature. I would beg leave to suggest whether it would not be advisable for the State to erect on one of the public squares in this city, an Arsenal for the keeping of all the arms of the State, and to provide, at the same time, an apartment for fixed ammunition, in which should be deposited and held in constant readiness, a sufficient quantity to meet any emergency of the State. And to the Volunteer Corps belonging to the seaport towns, the points most exposed to surprise from invasion or insurrection, arms should be furnished, and every assistance given, calculated to ensure confidence and security to the lives and property of the inhabitants under their protection.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, sir, your ob't ser'vt.

BEV. DANIEL, *Adj. Gen. M. N. C.*

*To His Excellency
Governor Burton.*

(A)

*Abstract of the Annual Return of the Militia of North-Carolina, for the year 1827.**Division and Brigade Staff.*

Number of Divisions,	-	-	-	8	
Number of Brigades,	-	-	-	18	
Major Generals,	-	-	-	-	7
Aids-de-camp,	-	-	-	-	14
Division Inspectors,	-	-	-	-	8
Brigadier Generals,	-	-	-	-	15
Aids-de-camp,	-	-	-	-	14
Brigade Majors and Inspectors,	-	-	-	-	6
Brigade Quarter Masters,	-	-	-	-	5

Infantry, Grenadiers, Light Infantry and Riflemen.

Number of Companies of Infantry,	-	-	-	742	
Number of Companies of Grenadiers,	-	-	-	2	
Number of Companies of Light Infantry,	-	-	-	22	
Number of Companies of Riflemen,	-	-	-	33	
Colonels,	-	-	-	-	87
Lieutenant Colonels,	-	-	-	-	82
Majors,	-	-	-	-	83
Adjutants	-	-	-	-	85
Quarter Masters,	-	-	-	-	33
Paymasters,	-	-	-	-	63
Chaplain,	-	-	-	-	1
Surgeons,	-	-	-	-	54
Surgeons' Mates,	-	-	-	-	32
Captains,	-	-	-	-	753
Lieutenants,	-	-	-	-	812
Ensigns,	-	-	-	-	677
Sergeant Majors,	-	-	-	-	66
Quarter Master Sergeants,	-	-	-	-	58
Drum and Fife Majors,	-	-	-	-	184
Sergeants,	-	-	-	-	2,403
Corporals,	-	-	-	-	1,520
Drummers, Fifers and Buglers,	-	-	-	-	1,024
Privates,	-	-	-	-	50,888

Aggregate, including commissioned, non-commissioned officers,
musicians and privates, - - - 60,841

Cavalry.

Number of Regiments,	-	-	-	5	
Number of Companies or Troops,	-	-	-	17	
Colonels,	-	-	-	-	5
Lieutenant Colonels,	-	-	-	-	7
Majors,	-	-	-	-	4
Adjutants,	-	-	-	-	4

Quarter Masters,	-	-	-	-	4
Surgeons,	-	-	-	-	3
Surgeons' Mate,	-	-	-	-	1
Sergeant Major,	-	-	-	-	1
Sergeants,	-	-	-	-	22
Corporals,	-	-	-	-	7
Trumpeters,	-	-	-	-	19
Privates,	-	-	-	-	595

Aggregate, including commissioned, non-commissioned officers, musicians and privates,	-	-	-	-	753
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Artillery.

Number of Regiments,	-	-	2	
Number of Companies,	-	-	5	
Colonel,	-	-	-	1
Majors,	-	-	-	2
Adjutants,	-	-	-	2
Captains,	-	-	-	5
Lieutenants,	-	-	-	14
Sergeants,	-	-	-	23
Corporals,	-	-	-	4
Drummers and Fifers,	-	-	-	12
Privates,	-	-	-	180

Aggregate, including commissioned, non-commissioned officers, musicians and privates,	-	-	-	244
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RECAPITULATION.

Aggregate of Infantry, Grenadiers, &c.	60,841
Aggregate of Cavalry,	753
Aggregate of Artillery,	244

61,838

Arms, Accoutrements and Ammunition.

	In the hands of the militia.	In the State Arsenals.	TOTAL.
Muskets,	2865	4802	7667
Bayonets,	464		464
Cartridge boxes and belts,	1222		1222
Brushes and Picks,	3313		3313
Balls, Screws and Worms,	1112		1112
Spare flints,	1591		1591
Ball Cartridges,	182		182
Rifles,	14890	370	15260
Shot Guns,	23805		23805

Powder Horns,	-	-	14056		14056
Pouches,	-	-	7775		7775
Loose Balls,	-	-	352		352
Horsemen's Pistols,	-	-	453	500	953
Swords,	-	-	3294	802	4096
Sword Scabbards and Belts,	-	-	2066		2066
Knapsacks,	-	-	102		102
Canteens,	-	-	20		20
Drums,	-	-	505		505
Fifes,	-	-	544		544

Ordnance and Ordnance Stores.

Brass 6 pounders,	-	-	2		2
Iron 4 pounders,	-	-	2		2
Spunges and rammers,	-	-	3		3
Ladles and worms,	-	-	3		3
Bricoles and dragropes,	-	-	3		3
Trail handspikes,	-	-	2		2
Sets or harness,	-	-	2		2

Amount of Fines collected and accounted for, \$336 97½

Adjutant General's Office, }
 Raleigh, 1st Dec. 1827. }

BEV. DANIEL,
Adj. Gen. M. N. C.

GENERAL STAFF—1827.

Names.		Rank.	Date of Appointment.		No. of Division and Brigade, and place of residence.	
		Major General	27th Dec.	1820	1st Division, Edenton	
1	Duncan M'Donald	"	21 "	1822	2nd "	Bladen
2	James M'Kay	"	26 "	1822	5th "	Buncombe
3	Philip Britain	"	28 "	1822	6th "	Onslow
4	Edward Ward	"	30 "	1822	3d "	Hillsboro'
5	Jehu Bird	"	30 "	1823	4th "	Charlotte
6	Michael M'Leary	"	30 "	1827	8th "	Washington
7	J. O. K. Williams	"	January,	1827	Vacant	
8						
1	William Bethell	Brigadier General	19 Dec.	1818	8th Brigade, Rockingham	
2	John Alston	"	29 "	1821	5th "	Halifax
3	Richard T. Brownrigg	"	28 "	1822	18th "	Chowan
4	Solomon Graves	"	28 "	1822	9th "	Surry
5	Benjamin Persons	"	" "	1822	4th "	Moore
6	Daniel Boon	"	30 "	1822	12th "	Johnston
7	Henry Blount	"	3 "	1823	17th "	Nash
8	John N. Puifer	"	29 "	1823	11th "	Cabarrus
9	Jesse Speight	"	30 "	1823	2nd "	Greene
10	William Gregory	"	30 "	1823	1st "	Elizabeth City
11	Richard D. S. M'Lean	"	5th January,	1825	10th "	Lincoln
12	William B. Hodges	"	" "	1827	13th "	Washington
13	Stephen Miller	"	" "	1827	3d "	Duplin
14	John Carrington	"	" "	1823	6th "	Orange
15		"			15th	Vacant
16		"			4th	"
17		"			14th	"
18		"			16th	"
	Beverly Daniel		Staff 28 July,	1821	Adjutant Gen'l,	Raleigh

(C)

REPORT OF ARMS BELONGING TO THE STATE, 1827.

Muskets with bay- onets.	Rifles.	Noncommissioned Officers' swords.	Sabres.	Horsemen's pic- tols.	REMARKS.
4818	370	302	500	500	Arsenal at Fayetteville.
634					Deposited at Edenton.
92					" at Newbern.
80		18			In the hands of the Raleigh Blues.
75					" Wilmington Volunteers.
64					" Perquimons "
64					" Pasquotank "
60					" Colonel of Haywood 1st Regt.
45					" Major General of the 5th Div.
80					" Salisbury Volunteers.
50					" Charlotte "
	80				" Wake Morgan Whites.
Total,	5062	450	320	500	500

BEV. DANIEL, *Adj. Gen. M. N. C.*

(D)

Arms due from the General Government for the years 1823, 1824, 1825, 1826.

This sum due the State of North-Carolina, as per statement furnished from the Ordnance Department, \$42,146

The following arms directed to be forwarded to cover the above sum, viz.

2,000 Muskets,	-	-	\$26,000
500 Rifles,	-	-	8,000
500 Rifle accoutrements,	-	-	1,250
3,048 Musket accoutrements,	-	-	6,096
2 6 pounder Cannon, with carriages and accoutrements,	-	-	6,800
			<hr/> 42,146

BEV. DANIEL, *Adj. Gen. M. N. C.*

(E)

LIST OF DELINQUENT OFFICERS—1827.

Officers who have failed to make returns to the Adjutant General.

Colonel of New-Hanover,
 “ of Bertie,
 “ of Richmond, 1st Regiment,
 “ of “ 2nd “
 Major General of the 5th Division.

Colonels who have failed to make returns to the Brigadier Generals.

Colonel of New-Hanover,
 “ of Halifax, 1st Regiment,
 “ of Jones,
 “ of Bladen,
 “ of Chatham.

Brigadier Generals who have failed to make returns to the Major Generals.

Brigadier General of the 6th Brigade,
 Brigadier General of the 12th “

General Officers who have failed to return their commands.

Brigadier General of the 8th Brigade,
 “ of the 2d “

BEV. DANIEL, *Adj. Gen. M. N. C.*

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